

Changes to Fort Rucker Regulation 190-5

Due to changes in Army Regulation 190-5, Code of Federal Regulation, DoD Instructions, and TRADOC Policy, Fort Rucker Regulation 190-5 had to be updated. Because there are some major changes to the regulation that will effect Soldiers, civilians and family members on post and visitors, the installation Public Affairs Office in coordination with the Directorate of Public Safety will conduct an intensive public awareness campaign to inform people on and off post about the changes, specifically the change concerning limiting cell phones or similar electronic devices to hands-free devices. The new regulation is available on the Fort Rucker Intranet under publications with an effective date of 1 July 2006. The Directorate of Public Safety will continue to remind and further educate the public to ensure compliance with the new changes. On 1 August 2006, drivers who violate the regulation will be subject to fines, loss of driving privileges and/or other administrative actions.

FAQs (Frequently asked questions)

1. Can I talk on a cell phone or use other electric devices while driving on Fort Rucker? Vehicle operators on Fort Rucker will not use cell phones or Mobile Personal Electronic Devices (MPED) unless the vehicle is safely parked or the operator is using a hands-free device.
2. Does this cell phone regulation apply while driving off post?
This cell phone regulation applies off post to any Soldier attached or assigned to the United States Army Aviation Warfighting Center and Fort Rucker while driving a POV. In addition, it applies to anyone (military or civilian) operating a military, government, or rental vehicle under official orders.
3. Does this cell phone regulation apply to the passenger(s) and driver? These prohibitions apply only to the driver of the vehicle and not to any passenger.
4. What is considered a hands free device? A mobile personal electronic device that has an internal feature or function, or is equipped with an attachment or addition by which the user may use the device without the use of either hand, even if either hand is necessary to activate, deactivate, or initiate a function of such device including dialing phone numbers. Basically this means the driver's phone system must allow the driver to keep both hands on the wheel while driving and talking on the phone . A phone system with an external microphone for talking and earpiece for listening is an example of a hands free system. A vehicle operator talking on the phone while the phone is in either of his/her hands would be in violation of the regulation. Other than the headset for hands-free cell phone use, this definition specifically does not include headphones, earphones or other listening devices that are prohibited for use on DoD installations while driving.
5. What can I do if I receive a phone call while driving and do not have a hands-free device? Prior to answering a phone call or making a call, vehicle operators without a hands-free capable cell phone or MPED are required to safely exit the roadway into a

safe area, i.e. a paved parking lot or other similar hardstand area, away from the flow of traffic, come to a complete stop, and place their vehicle in park, before they use a cell phone or other similar MPED. Once safely parked personnel can use the flash or redial capability on their phone or MPED to answer any missed calls. Personnel will not stop or park on the shoulder of any roadway or seeded/grassed area to use their phone or MPED. This avoids creating a potential safety hazard to other vehicles in the traffic flow, the destruction of seeded or grassed areas, running over debris, getting stuck, etc.

6. What will happen if I am driving on Fort Rucker and stopped by military police while talking on my cell phone without utilizing a hands-free device after 1 August 2006? Individuals who violate this prohibition, including but not limited to military, civilian, family members, and visitors, may be subject to monetary fines in U. S. Magistrate Court up to \$50, administrative actions, including but not limited to suspension or revocation of post driving privileges, and removal from and/or denial of reentry onto Fort Rucker. DoD civilian employees may also be subject to disciplinary and/or administrative action by their commanders or supervisors as appropriate. Soldiers who violate this prohibition off the installation can be subject to administrative actions.

7. Can I use a radar detector on the installation? The use of radar or laser detection devices to indicate the presence of speed recording instruments or to transmit simulated erroneous speeds is prohibited on Fort Rucker or any other DoD installation and such devices shall not be sold in DoD-controlled sales outlets IAW DoDI 6055.4 (DoD Traffic Safety Program).

8. Can I wear high top sneakers while riding my motorcycle? No. Leather boots or over-the-ankle leather hard sole shoes are the only acceptable footwear while riding a motorcycle. Sneakers are not a hard sole shoe or acceptable.

9. Do I have to wear a reflective belt when riding my motorcycle? As a minimum motorcycle operators and passengers will wear a brightly colored reflective-type belt (as normally used by soldiers during PT), during either day or night time driving. Motorcycle operators are highly encouraged to wear a full size reflective vest as it makes them much more visible to other vehicle operators. Either a reflective belt, a reflective vest/jacket, or a jacket with reflective material meets requirements. When the belt is worn, it will be worn diagonally across the upper body and over the shoulder or over any backpack worn by the operator.